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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Extension Service
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A 4-H REPORT TO THE NATION

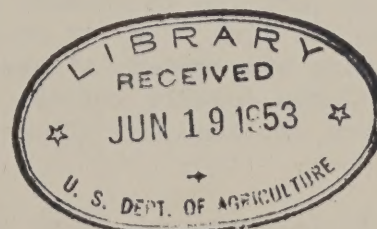
1952

Theme: Serving as Loyal Citizens through 4-H

By George Foster, Field Agent
Extension Service

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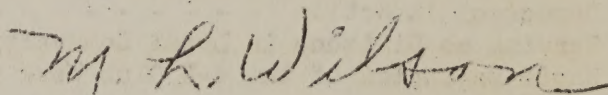
FOREWORD

The thread of freedom is a cord of strength in our work. The 4-H Club Citizenship Pledge symbolizes the determined and effective efforts of two million boys and girls in 1952: "We will endeavor to transmit this Nation to posterity not merely as we found it but freer, happier, and more beautiful than when it was transmitted to us."

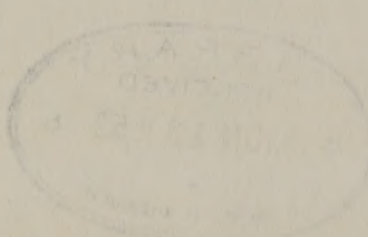
The 87,000 4-H Clubs undergirded this statement of faith and determination with the theme "Serving as Loyal Citizens Through 4-H." And they resolved anew "To Make The Best Better."

The efficacy of their resolve is witnessed in the new records of achievement which were reached in 1952. 4-H Club membership crossed the 2 million mark for the first time in the history of our Nation. Food and fiber production reached an all-time high. Improved conservation, health, and other practices on the farm and in the home helped to strengthen the sinews of our national economy. And new heights were reached in the development of those values of character, family living, fellowship, and spiritual life which are so important to the future of our Nation.

All 4-H'ers with a unity of purpose pressed on toward the full development of their heads for clearer thinking, their hearts for greater loyalty, their hands for larger service, and their health for better living for their clubs, their communities, their country, and the world. These, in brief, represent some of the high points of the past year.



Director of Extension Work



A 4-H REPORT TO THE NATION

1952

"Serving as Loyal Citizens through 4-H"

4-H Club members in their zeal to do their part in the total mobilization effort, set new records this year. The enrollment of young people 10 to 21 years of age reached 2,004,139--the greatest in history. This accomplishment was made possible in large part by the enlistment of 292,923 local leaders in the program--an increase of some 18,000 over the previous year.

4-H SUPPORTS DEFENSE MOBILIZATION ON THE FARM--IN THE HOME

In a recent letter, Extension Director M. L. Wilson states: "In the endeavor to aid the free nations of Europe to increase food production a concerted effort is being made to raise the sights of the farm population through their farm youth. The influence of 4-H Club members in Austria in raising production levels is by now a well-known story. To give added impetus to this work the National 4-H Club Foundation of America, with the cooperation of the Extension Service, prepared for the Mutual Security Agency an illustrated publication: Youth Can Help Increase Productivity. The publication gives a number of well-documented accounts of how farm youth in this country are helping to increase food production. It also gives essential background on 4-H and other work with rural youth."

4-H'ers recognize that production and marketing are of paramount importance in every farm program. Hence major emphasis was placed on producing higher yields per acre and marketing their products so as to receive the highest possible cash return. The importance of these objectives can best be appreciated in light of the fact that well over half the rural population, thus an appreciable percentage of the effective labor force, is made up of young people under 30 years of age.

Two examples illustrate the real contribution of young people in production and marketing:

- (1) The average yield per acre of No. 1 potatoes for South Carolina farmers is 107 bushels, but the average yield of No. 1 potatoes for 4-H boys in Darlington County, high county in the past year's production and marketing contest, was 217 bushels--more than double the average for the State. When asked how they did it, James Griggs, high man of the contest with 280 bushels of No. 1's, said simply, "I did what my county agent told me to do." This led to the observation that the 60-percent increase in sweetpotato production requested for this year could be reached without any increase in acreage if the farmers generally would "do what the county agents" recommend.
- (2) Three 4-H Club members in another State are examples of young people who are taking advantage of curb markets. In 5 years of selling on her local market, one girl has earned around \$1,000, much of which has been invested in purebred dairy cattle, and in business college

training. Last year she sold 72 different items, marketing 47 days.

Another sold 14 items for \$36.50 in seven market days at the local market, while a third sold 30 items for \$160.29 in 34 market days at her local market.

These are examples of the contribution made by 4-H members all over the country.

In the home, similar efforts were made in the defense effort. Here the emphasis was on the preparation and preservation of nutritious foods. One 4-H girls, Anna E. Waltermeyer, 16, Parkton, Md., 7 years in 4-H, has canned 7,000 quarts of fruit, meat, and vegetables, the vegetables from her own acre garden. This year she made 21 local, 3 county, and 18 State exhibits. As junior club leader she helps younger members as well as neighbors with canning problems.

Much attention was directed toward clothing the family with attractive but economical garments, increasing the attractiveness of the home, and the development of those qualities that make for happy family living. 4-H'ers endeavored to gain the most from their educational opportunities by relating their farm and home projects to their academic school programs.

In all their activities 4-H'ers were carrying out their Defense Mobilization Pledge, which states in part: "As a 4-H Club member and citizen of our great Nation, I will earnestly work to preserve our deeply rooted spiritual heritage, our time-proven democratic government for free men, and our vast wealth in manifold human and natural resources."

LOCAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

The 4-H Clubs have long recognized their dependence upon and their place in the development of local leadership. More than 18,000 new local volunteer leaders answered the call to service through 4-H last year, making a total of 293,000 volunteer 4-H leaders. Of this number, 215,000 were volunteer adult leaders. When asked to explain why he had given so much time as a 4-H Club leader, one leader said: "Certainly we need an improved citizenship in the present and future. More 4-H Club work, including emphasis on home activities and good recreation, will help bring this about. It is gratifying to know that we have a little part in this and accept the challenge, hoping our reward will be one of those things which money cannot buy--development of good character."

It is significant that 78,000 older boys and girls served as volunteer leaders during the year. This is a demonstration of the development of leadership through 4-H Club work. There is an increasing awareness on the part of older members of the need for rendering service to others. 4-H junior leadership has provided such an opportunity.

Extension agents have long recognized that volunteer local leaders are fundamental in the development and expansion of the entire 4-H Club program. As they gain more "know-how" about securing, training, using, and recognizing these leaders, the effectiveness of leaders is greatly

increased. Last year there was an increase of only 39 county extension agents, making a total of 9,557. The percentage of extension agents' time devoted to 4-H work remained about the same, just over 37 percent. But the number of 4-H members reached was increased by 13,207, and 656,791 boys and girls were enrolled for the first time. Thus this increase can be largely attributed to 4-H local leadership.

The story of Mrs. Holland Kennedy, of Arkansas, illustrates this development. Her State 4-H Club agent writes: "Her leadership started when her son joined the 4-H Club. A daughter followed, and the interest doubled.

"Mrs. Kennedy started with the New Providence 4-H Club. When schools consolidated, New Providence was among three clubs which lost membership. During National 4-H Club Week in 1951 Mrs. Kennedy met with leaders of New Providence, Turley, and Stillwell at Lodges Corner--where the three groups attend church. A community club was organized to meet two nights a week--with safety, health, and recreation as club projects.

"No county extension agents meet regularly with the group--the young people themselves carry on the business and demonstrations. Of course, Mrs. Kennedy is always right there with suggestions when the boys and girls call on her."

FOOD PRODUCTION

4-H Club members maintained their food production at record levels, in order to make more available for their own families, for other families, and for those in need in other lands. More than 100,000 acres of garden products were produced in addition to 1/2 million acres of food crops. These 4-H members raised, in all, more than 1,000,000 head of livestock, including dairy and beef cattle, sheep, and swine, and over 9,000,000 head of poultry, including chickens, turkeys, and other fowl. Evidence of the interest of 4-H in developing sound programs of production is found in Logan County, Colo., where a group of cattlemen, bankers, and extension agents have helped to sponsor a program of "practical feeding" for 4-H Club boys interested in beef projects. The program involves purchasing cattle on the market, feeding the cattle out in a practical operation, and selling on the open market.

Fourteen Logan County 4-H boys signed for the program, agreeing to purchase 39 feeder calves. Two brothers worked together, making 13 projects. Seven of the projects were on irrigated farms, and the other six were on dry-land farms. The project proved to be an educational program for the dads as well as for the boys. One father said: "This practical feeding program was a splendid program for the boys and their dads. I am sure I learned as much or more than my boy did during the feeding program." The average net profit was above \$100 per steer when the entire group was considered.

In all this work in food production, careful attention was given to improved methods of breeding, cultivation, pest control, feeding, marketing, and other practices that augmented the food supply and, in turn, the family income. An enlarged National 4-H Club Entomology Program was

started. Young people each year are becoming more aware of the economic loss from insect damage and the need for a fuller understanding of the life history of insects, their habits, and control measures. Through this program they will have an opportunity to learn of the relationship of entomology to various 4-H agricultural and home economics projects and of its fundamental importance.

GRASSLAND PROGRAM

The interest of 4-H Club members in grasslands is partially indicated by a 30 percent increase in pasture improvement projects. They know that good pastures are fundamental in a balanced farming program that includes livestock projects and conservation farming. Furthermore, it is a family affair, as demonstrated by the W. H. Giles family in Nelson County, Va.. A switch from cash crops to dairying and grassland farming, coupled with good management all along the way, has resulted in an increase in gross income from \$900 to \$5,000 a year. Today what used to be a tobacco farm is the only Grade A dairy farm in Nelson.

The Giles' met the requirements for producing Grade A milk with an expenditure of only \$1,500. The average daily shipment from a 24-cow, 21-heifer herd is 30 gallons.

Two cows and two heifers belong to Claude Giles, the only son, and an outstanding 4-H Club member. His sister, Kathry, also a 4-H'er, has, as far as dairy work goes, the job of taking care of the milkhouse.

Mr. Giles gives much of the credit for his success at dairying to good pasture. On the 147-acre farm only 35 acres are cropland, including 14 acres in permanent hay, and 69 acres are in pasture, 16 of this in ladine clover and orchard grass. He used from 6 to 7 acres of corn to fill his 90 ton silo.

CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY

A wide variety of 4-H projects and activities were focused on conserving natural resources. Indicative of the increasing interest in conservation as one of America's major problems was the large increase in the number of acres in 4-H Club projects devoted to soil and water conservation. Three hundred sixty-five thousand acres were improved by terracing, contour strip cropping, and other conservation practices. Many 4-H members attended State conservation camps where special training was provided. This training often included the use of a farm level in constructing terraces and laying out contour lines as well as locating farm ponds and terrace spillways. Camp programs also included activities relating to the appreciation and conservation of wildlife; information on the social and economic values of soil, especially in relation to the national welfare; along with information focusing attention upon the need for all to work together on a program important to the welfare of the community, State and Nation. Nearly 400,000 members received definite training in conservation activities.

One of the exciting new 4-H conservation activities is the Land-Judging Contest pioneered by the Oklahoma Extension Service. Last year the first National Land-Judging Contest was a success. Nearly 1,000 people, young and old, participated. The first school in land judging was held in 1940 at Red Plains, Okla., for 4-H Club boys, with 25 participating. Since then more than 40,000 people have participated in county contests. Now the idea has spread to other States because of its popular appeal.

Over 37,000 members were enrolled in 4-H forestry work involving over 90,000 acres. An additional 170,000 members received definite training in this activity. These 4-H members through their forestry activities gained desirable attitudes toward the need and importance of conserving our forest resources in relation to the public welfare. They learned to appreciate the importance of the farm woodland as a source of income and of raw material for American industries. They acquired a knowledge of good forestry practices and a skill in executing them. In all these activities, too, they learned the "importance of keeping America green by preventing forest fires."

MARKETING FARM PRODUCTS

4-H Club members are well aware of the fact that production is only one phase of their job. Marketing of their products is equally as important. They have also learned the value of cooperative endeavor.

Marked progress was made in a number of States in cooperative educational activities. For instance, nine States developed programs with 4-H staff, Extension economists, and State Councils of Cooperatives or regional farmer cooperatives participating in planning and carrying them out. Nineteen States selected and sent 4-H representatives of the Youth Session of the American Institute of Cooperation at Logan, Utah. The 4-H demonstration teams appearing on that program have repeated their presentation before cooperative meetings and other groups. Six States have awarded plaques given by the American Institute to 4-H Clubs for programs in cooperation.

A few States developed their activities on an individual club member basis. Alabama made this a group activity for the 4-H County Council, and other States planned their activities around the community 4-H Club. Oklahoma highlighted the program through its "Timely Topic" 4-H Public Speaking activities at the State Round-Up this past year.

FARM ENGINEERING

In keeping with the 4-H guidopost, "Learning to Live in a Changing World," and parallel with the rapidly increasing development of electric power in rural areas, 4-H members have been correspondingly interested in the use of electric power and machinery on the farm relative to operating farm and home labor-saving equipment, lighting buildings, pumping water, and making repairs. In all, nearly 270,000 were enrolled in farm engineering activities. Articles made and repaired totaled over 220,000.

There were nearly 50,000 members and local volunteer leaders trained in 1,371 counties in the 4-H tractor maintenance program alone. The cumulative total of members and leaders trained in the tractor program since 1945 stands at 210,000 members and 22,000 leaders. In keeping with the developing program this national training and awards program was enlarged to include other phases of farm machinery work. This program took on added significance as the result of the critical steel supply situation.

The achievements of many boys and girls through their electric projects are dramatized in the record of Byron D. Reida, 17-year-old youth from Zenda, Kans. He gathered all the information he could on home wiring, and when his family moved to a new 600-acre farm, he was able to supervise the installation of all wiring on the farm. He has also built electric pig and poultry brooders, helped install the water system, built table lamps, and is now capable of repairing many electric appliances.

HEALTH FOR A STRONG AMERICA

"I pledge my health to better living...and for my country." This portion of the 4-H Pledge had special significance this year. More than 750,000 club members improved their own health and cooperated in improving health conditions in their homes and communities. Over 300,000 members had periodic health examinations, a gratifying increase over the previous year. Thousands developed desirable health habits and attitudes in relation to proper foods, clothing, exercise, and the care of the body. They learned to appreciate the values of young people developing sound bodies and mature personalities. At their 4-H Club meetings ways of serving the community were discussed and work done to make for better health conditions.

For example, the Brockton 4-H Club in Jackson County, Ga., reports that its members participated in the health project 100 percent. When they started this campaign for better health this year, they got together and set up goals they would work toward. Among them were: keep personal health charts, have educational campaign on health and safety, take immunizations and physical examinations, have community participate 100 percent in tests offered through a county health survey, improve drinking water at school and homes, prepare first-aid kit at school, carry out clean-up campaign, and have supervised recreational meetings. There were many others.

Perhaps one of the most outstanding State 4-H health programs is conducted in Illinois, where 42 health activity field days were conducted during the year. These were culminated in an Illinois "Farm Sports Festival" cooperatively sponsored by the Illinois Agricultural Association, Illinois Home Bureau Federation, various farm papers, and the college of agriculture. The finals in the State 4-H softball tournament and competitive activities in keeping fit, folk and square dances, and tumbling were held.

SAFETY AND FIRE PREVENTION

Our young people indicated an acute awareness of the importance of fire and accident prevention in their activities during the year. Nearly

600,000 4-H members received definite training and took an active role in this important area. Ohio is one State that has integrated safety with its public-speaking program. The speeches dealt with falls, fires, farm machinery, and home accidents. Sixty-four counties participated in this program, in which 2,733 talks in local 4-H Clubs, and 456 talks at county-wide meetings, were given.

4-H'ERS "SHARE THE FUN" IN CAMPS AND OTHER RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

One of the 10 4-H Guideposts is "Joining with Friends for Fun and Fellowship." Because of the rapidly developing 4-H program in recreation and rural arts, more than a quarter of a million 4-H young people assisted as junior leaders in developing recreational activities in their local communities. They taught games at 4-H events; they improved recreational facilities in their homes; built recreational equipment for the use of the community; and did many other things that provided constructive, enriching experiences during their leisure time and helped to develop all-round, adjusted personalities. During the past year, also, more than half a million 4-H members participated in music and art appreciation activities in keeping with their purpose to make the most of their talents and add enjoyment to living in their homes and communities for both themselves and others.

New frontiers were explored in the field of recreation with the development of State-wide "Share the Fun" festivals as a part of our National 4-H Recreation and Rural Arts Program. Michigan had 45 counties to participate in its talent program by conducting festival eliminations. A grant total of 1,035 acts were reported from 40 counties with 1,994 4-H young people taking active parts. More than 26,000 people saw and heard their county programs throughout the State. To further expand their recreational programs in the communities, 24 district adult leader recreational schools were held, with 1,063 persons attending.

The 7,500 4-H camps held in 1951 provided club members with still another means of gaining information and inspiration as well as those desirable attitudes and skills that make for outstanding citizenship and for home and community improvement. These camps were attended by nearly 340,000 members, leaders and others interested in 4-H camping. In several States, 4-H foundations are being established and funds raised to build State and district 4-H Club camps, especially equipped to meet the needs of 4-H Club members. Among these States are Illinois, New York, Iowa, Mississippi, and Georgia. There are others in various sections of the country.

Much has been gained also from camp programs which include the development of good fellowship through music and recreation; evening meetings at sunset or around the glowing campfire; early-morning nature hikes and "cook-outs"; handicraft sessions involving archery and similar activities; as well as more exciting adventures, such as over-night hikes, or excursions on horseback to explore distant places rich in nature lore.

The mention of camp names such as "Jackson's Mill," "Rock Eagle," "Pigeon Lake," and "Lake Tahoe" strikes a responsive cord in the heart of 4-H Club members across the country who have attended one of the camps. In his

annual report the Nevada State 4-H Club leader says: "While the camp advisory committee emphasizes recreation, the State assembly is used as a means of instilling certain fundamentals of club work, citizenship, personal behavior, and social usage that will be of value in later years." He goes on to say that club members take a major part in running the camp, which teaches the principles of the democratic processes of self-government.

This is true also in the National 4-H Club Camp held in the Nation's Capital. Here 4-H Club members from all the States and Territories and visitors from many foreign countries gather. Besides carrying on many activities common to State, district and county encampments, they have a unique opportunity to study our national government--its functions, its people, its constitution and its shrines. The Citizenship Ceremony, the Candlelighting Ceremony and other activities emphasize the development of those qualities of the head, the heart, the hands, and the health so important in our world today. As one 4-H'er wrote after attending the Nebraska 4-H Conservation Camp: "The camp, with its natural beauty and the emphasis on the conservation and restoration of our soil and wildlife has left me with an even greater love and respect for the things which nature has given us to use.

"I intend to go home and do my best to encourage my friends and neighbors to use, not abuse, our many resources. I feel that I've learned a lot about our State and the use of its land during the past week, and the many new friends I've made at camp share my feelings.

"I wish that more people could attend this camp as I feel that it has been an invaluable experience for those of us who were able to attend."

Much of the credit for the success of these camps and of 4-H Club work in general is due to the local volunteer leaders and the training they receive. Many States now hold leadership camps for adult and junior leaders. Wisconsin reports a series of four such camps, each 3 days in length, which attracted a total of 1,450 leaders.

THE HOME AND FAMILY -- FOUNDATION STONES OF 4-H CLUB WORK

The importance of the home and family in 4-H Club work everywhere is well illustrated by this statement from a State report for the past year: "4-H Club work has always been a home and family program, requiring understanding and cooperation of the parents." The most important trend in home economics projects in Wisconsin is the coordination of programs for homemakers' groups and the projects for 4-H girls. Thus, the homemaker receives training in the basic information which helps her to understand and appreciate the work of the 4-H member in her home. One may read between the lines of the following story of family cooperation written by Dorothy Heideman, a 7-year club member of Sheboygan County.

"...In my home, our family works together in helping to make our home a better place to live. Clothing, foods, food preservation, home furnishings, gardening, and leadership were my 4-H projects that helped in our home. In clothing, I learned to sew, not only for myself, but for Mother, Dad, Carolyn, Eileen, Wayne, and my friends.

Sewing was one way I could help in keeping our family budget....

"A few years ago, we rebuilt our home and here, too, ideas and suggestions I learned in home furnishings were used.

"Then a big part of club work is helping others. All of the methods I learned, I try to share with others because after all that's what learning or education and 4-H is."

Building the 4-H program on needs of the home as well as the interests of the young people is the aim of the integrated home economics training.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND MENTAL HEALTH

As the defense program makes new demands on farm people, their concern for the development of their youth, physically, spiritually, and mentally, is paramount. Highlighting this concern was the participation of 4-H Club workers in a conference on Healthy Personality in Children, held in Princeton, N. J., in September. The meeting was sponsored cooperatively by the Interdepartmental Committee on Children and Youth and the Josiah Macy, Jr., Foundation. One of the chief objectives of the conference was to "consider ways in which citizens can work together more effectively for assuring children the fullest possible opportunities for development." The 4-H Clubs were referred to as one of the outstanding rural youth organizations providing opportunities for children to develop healthy personalities.

A number of States have noted that child care projects are increasing in popularity with 4-H Club members. Over 23,000 members are enrolled. Massachusetts reports: "Child care lends itself very well to community service activities and many clubs have noted that they make use of this. In Dukes County a child care center was set up at the 4-H Fair. Young children were left with club members when their parents came to the fair. In Middlesex County the same type of service was performed by a child care group at the County Homemakers' Day.

"Other types of activities carried on either individually or by groups were: storytelling hours held at local libraries, making of scrapbooks, layettes, and toys for hospitals and other service groups, and parties for small children. In Dukes County, particular emphasis was placed upon the use of dramatics, and children were encouraged to give their own interpretations to some of the children's stories."

Perhaps the most important achievement of the child care project is the effect on the club member and his family. He learns to better understand himself and his brothers and sisters and to help his parents in giving the little folk in the family wholesome guidance.

Personality improvement programs are catching the interest of older club members. Several States now have specific projects in this field. The development of the boy or girl is recognized as the real goal of 4-H work.

HOME IMPROVEMENT AND BEAUTIFICATION

The past year has seen an increase in 4-H Club activities pertaining to home improvement and beautification. According to State reports, 4-H

members improved nearly 120,000 rooms, landscaped over 140,000 home grounds, and made over 800,000 articles which added attractiveness to their own homes and communities. 4-H Club members planned home improvements for beauty, comfort, health, privacy, and safety in keeping with the needs of every member of the family. In the beautification of the home grounds, they learned the correct way of planting and caring for grasses, shrubs, and trees for beauty and to control soil erosion. Such activities encourage 4-H members to participate in family planning councils and in home responsibilities, often resulting in happier family relationships as well as a genuine pride and satisfaction in the home.

Special emphasis was placed on volunteer leader training in this area in order to strengthen the program. For example, Illinois conducted 20 schools with 566 leaders from 86 counties attending.

CLOTHING

A new record was set in the 4-H clothing club work. Over 2,298,000 garments were made or repaired by the 670,000 members enrolled. Stories of achievements indicated that these members made an earnest effort to acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to select, construct, and care for clothing suitable for various occasions. They learned to dress more appropriately, becomingly, and healthfully in keeping with a well-planned budget. Selection of clothing from the standpoint of the consumer became more meaningful to them as they learned more about new materials and accessories, and they found their activities something of an adventure, as illustrated by Joyce Williams, of Windsor, Calif. She reports making 84 garments and remodeling 14 in her 9 years of 4-H. From the time she was 11 she made all her own clothes, then took over her mother's, grandmother's, and sister's sewing, and sometimes earned money by sewing for friends. Joyce says, "I love to sew! To me it is a game. First you put pieces together (jigsaw), then you play follow the leader with a needle." Joyce has been clothing project leader since 1945.

FOOD PRESERVATION

A creditable showing was made by 4-H members throughout the country in preserving the surplus of food produced on the home front, thus stretching the much-needed family dollars to be spent for living. Reports indicate that 4-H young people, especially girls, canned and preserved in other ways a very considerable quantity of fruits, vegetables, and meats. About 8 million quarts of food were canned according to recommended practices.

However, this was a decrease in food preservation by canning but was offset by a 50-percent increase in food preservation by freezing. In all, nearly 4,000,000 quarts were frozen either in new deep freezers at home or in well-equipped freezer lockers in the home community. Impetus was given to this method of preserving food through 4-H team demonstrations by club members in many parts of the country. In addition, a large amount of food, as in past years, was preserved by brining, curing, drying or storing, in accordance with well-tested preservation practices. Equipment and supply shortages have worked hardships in some areas during the year, as did shortage of many garden crops due to unfavorable weather conditions.

FOOD SELECTION AND PREPARATION

In the past year, 4-H girls planned, prepared, or served over 22,000,000 meals. This was in addition to the work done in baking and preparing special food dishes, as well as in preparing and packing school lunches, in accordance with present standards of good nutrition. In all these activities, 4-H members developed skill in the proper preparation of food, in the planning and serving of meals, and in the selection and use of equipment. They gained an understanding of the preparation and combination of wholesome foods and of the selection of an adequate diet in keeping with the dietary needs of the family. They were guided to make the greatest possible use of home-produced foods and to select wisely purchased foods through a study of food costs.

An interesting development, though not a new one by any means, has been outdoor cookery in connection with camping, 4-H Club meetings, and other activities. It has a popular appeal to both sexes and insures a good time in any gathering, as shown by this report from Lawrence County, Pa.:

"The local 4-H leaders of the Outdoor Cookery Club met for an all-day training meeting at the home of one of the leaders. An Imulay was prepared and a chicken roasted for the evening meal. Vegetables were cooked in aluminum foil and mock angel-food cake was prepared for dessert. ...Gallon cans were used over a crane for the beverage. Several types of fare were demonstrated during the day, along with suitable equipment to make. ...All the leaders felt they had gained much information to help with the summer program, along with having a good time for the day."

4-H MEMBERS WORK FOR GREATER ACHIEVEMENT

"Make the Best Better"

More than half a million 4-H Club members learned to evaluate their own accomplishments through judging work, thus raising the quality of their own work as well as that of their friends and neighbors. Another means of raising the quality of 4-H Club work is through 4-H tours to observe better practices, under the guidance of trained leaders. During 1951, nearly 18,000 such tours were conducted, involving 600,000 members and leaders. Intercounty and interstate exchanges are becoming more popular as means of acquiring new ideas, meeting new people, and becoming better acquainted with our great land.

One of the latest of such interstate exchanges is between Mississippi and Minnesota. North Carolina and Iowa have already completed two such exchanges with all participants rating the experience as tops. Texas and North Carolina are now undertaking a similar project, to mention a few.

In all, 24,000 4-H achievement days were held with a total attendance of nearly 4,500,000 members, leaders, parents, and friends of 4-H Club work--a notable increase as compared with previous years. Most of these achievement events were linked closely to the observance of National 4-H Club Achievement Week, the first week in November, when the attention of the whole Nation was focused on the recognition of achievements of the 4-H Club members and the significant part played by parents and local volunteer leaders.

DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH PARTICIPATION, LEADERSHIP, AND CITIZENSHIP

Ever since the inception of 4-H Club work, one of the main objectives has been the development of leadership on the part of 4-H members. In all phases of the 4-H program, members are shown ways and means by which they may, through 4-H, develop leadership qualities. But, most of all, an effort has been made to help them to learn and appreciate the values of sound leadership in a democratic society. Earlier reference has been made to the 4-H junior leadership program, whereby older 4-H'ers participate in the execution of 4-H programs.

YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN PROGRAMS ALONG WITH ADULTS

"Learning by doing" has long been an accepted principle of acquiring skills in better farming and homemaking practices through 4-H Club work and other extension programs. But not so well understood is the process of developing and training young rural leaders by the same method. However, during the past year, there was an increased endeavor to bring more older 4-H members into situations of planning and leadership on the basis that if a youth can do the job, why should an adult withhold that opportunity?

An interesting example of this trend comes from Kansas, where for the second year a concentrated effort has been made to hold county-wide planning meetings over the entire State. "Where it is executed most effectively," the report says, "youth and adults serve on such committees as livestock, health, home economics, and organization in an effort to solve youth's problems. It is becoming more evident that 4-H-trained older youth are taking their places on the county program planning committees. Several have been elected to the county extension governing body, and some are serving as chairman. This has come about as a result of recognition of the ability of these youth to assume responsibility in helping solve county-wide problems."

4-H Leadership Leads to Good Citizenship

"To encourage good citizenship among 4-H Club members, and to emphasize those qualities and acts which reflect concern for the welfare of parents and neighbors, members and leaders, and for activities affecting the club, community, and country"--such is the purpose of the 4-H citizenship program. These objectives are exemplified in the record of Esther Jean McNeal of Blanchard, La., who in 9 years of 4-H work has served 5 as junior leader in home improvement, food preparation, clothing, poultry, wildlife, and health, and with an average of 94 percent in project completions. She coached demonstration teams, helped members keep their record books, taught girls how to cut and fit dresses, and used her own room as topic for discussion on room improvement.

Esther Jean served her county as representative on the State 4-H executive committee, and at 4-H camp helped with the evening and vesper programs. She has given 91 talks to 4-H and civic groups, one winning first place in the State contest. She has reported with over 100 4-H news stories. She is a senior in high school, and her grades are uniformly "A".

In the Blanchard Baptist Church the girl serves as secretary, director of the junior choir, member of the girls' ensemble, and president of the Young Women's Auxiliary, an organization that collects books and magazines for the Shreveport Polio Center.

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION

Many varied opportunities to develop leadership and good citizenship are provided through the regular 4-H Club meeting. During the past year, even greater emphasis was placed upon the importance of this phase of the work. As club members elected their own officers, conducted their own meetings, planned and carried on their own programs, acted as chairmen of committees, demonstrated in public, and discussed their own responsibilities in home and community development, they learned to abide by the decisions of the club group and to accept responsibilities whenever the situation warranted.

SERVING AS CITIZENS IN LOCAL COMMUNITY

More than 47,000 clubs engaged in community activities, such as improving public grounds, conducting local fairs, building community playgrounds, and, during emergencies, helping neighboring farmers with their farm and home work. These clubs are to be found in every State and county. But let's take Missouri as an example. Last year 781 clubs there conducted community service activities. These projects were quite varied and often an outgrowth of a particular need arising in the community. Such was the case this spring when the Missouri River flood occurred. Whitt and Center Point Clubs of Daviess County and Wakeside Club of Jackson County collected food and clothing for flood victims of the Kansas City area. The Hagers Grove 4-H girls packed and sent 70 quarts of canned food to the orphanage at Hannibal during the holidays. The "Go-Getters" Club collected over 350 articles of clothing for needy families.

Another 4-H Club with the help of the community bought the local school-house, no longer in use, and established a community center. The 4-H Builders of Carbon County, Mont., who donated \$500 of their earnings toward furnishing a room in the Red Lodge hospital, now have purchased a tree planter, ordered 15,000 seedlings, and will set out a minimum of 300 trees at 4 cents each for any county farmer. Such is the record of 4-H service across the Nation.

An enlarged National 4-H Club Citizenship Program is being launched with the National 4-H Club Center in Washington to be the focal point as soon as it is available.

Outstanding service was also performed by the 486,000 boys and girls who demonstrated improved practices in farming and homemaking at meetings held for parents, neighbors, and others of the community. Such demonstrations included care of farm and home equipment, insect control, various conservation practices, use of dairy foods, techniques in the care of young children, and steps of procedure in canning and freezing methods for food preservation.

To do their part in controlling inflation and to prepare for the future, 4-H'ers are "saving for the rainy day" through their 4-H thrift project. Nearly 360,000 reported the keeping of personal accounts as part of their 4-H work. 4-H'ers are truly trying to live up to their citizenship responsibilities.

RAPID EXPANSION OF THE 4-H CLUB WORK TO URBAN AREAS AND AROUND THE WORLD

Urban and Rural Nonfarm Areas

Encouraged by the success of 4-H Clubs in many urban communities and challenged by a shift from a predominantly rural farm population to a predominantly urban population, 4-H Club work has steadily expanded to reach more young people living in urban and rural nonfarm areas, as funds have been made available by the areas involved. At present, 4-H Club work is established on a sound basis in such urban areas as Portland, Oreg.; Spokane, Wash.; Denver, Colo.; Detroit, Mich.; Indianapolis, Ind.; Syracuse, N. Y.; as well as in many other large towns and cities. A recent study revealed that urban extension work is now being conducted in 28 States. Projects undertaken by 4-H members in these areas include nearly all of those pertaining to homemaking, gardening, craft, and such small-animal projects as raising poultry, rabbits, and goats, particularly in the fringe areas of urban centers. Vermont reports that "4-H Clubs are organized in all urban areas. The handicraft, electricity, and all homemaking projects are suitable for these areas...as are poultry and garden projects."

A growing demand for 4-H Club work has been evinced by parents of urban young people as well as by the young people themselves. This has been due largely to the rapidly increasing interest of the general public in 4-H Club work and what it is doing for young people.

Around the World

Owing to the increased interest in 4-H Club work on the part of Government officials in this and other countries a decided impetus has been given also to the development of rural youth work throughout the world. Through especially prepared literature, exhibits, workshops, and exchange of visits, by both Government leaders and 4-H members, here and abroad, a greater understanding of 4-H Club work has developed. It has proved its value when adapted to new localities and situations in meeting the needs and interest of rural young people and helping them "to lift themselves by their own bootstraps."

To the impressive list of countries having 4-H or similar youth groups, the following countries have been added or their programs revitalized recently: Formosa, Ceylon, the Philippines, Nepal, and Bolivia, to mention a few. In passing, it is interesting to note that this start of 4-H work in the Philippines came about through the efforts of Francisco Panganiban, Chief of Information for the Philippine Department of Agriculture, who studied as a Point 4 leader in the United States, and Hank Miller, of the Voice of America staff, who has made recordings with extension people in a number of States. There have been youth clubs in the Philippines for some years, organized somewhat along 4-H lines. The name of these will be changed to 4-H and the work expanded.

International Farm Youth Exchange

One of the most important 4-H contributions to world understanding has been the work done through the International Farm Youth Exchange. Under this project, now in its fifth year, 174 club members or former club members have participated. In doing so, they have worked on the farms visited, and studied the cultures and creeds of the people and their attitudes to international affairs. As a part of this project also, a corresponding number of young people from other countries have come to this country to live on farms and participate in similar ways in local 4-H Club and community activities. According to the plan set up, as the young people return to their homes, it is their responsibility to tell the story of their experiences and observations. A supplementary exchange with Puerto Rico this year has also proved to be an interesting and profitable experience. The over-all exchange was broadened this year to include greater numbers of young people. A winter as well as a summer exchange is now operating. Particular attention is being devoted to Point 4 countries.

Discussions

A larger number of 4-H members are engaged in more discussions of world issues than ever before. They spent considerable time in discussing what could be done about them in the local 4-H Club and in the community. These discussions received impetus from those held at National and State 4-H events, as well as from 4-H literature especially prepared for this purpose. Most important in developing better world understanding were the increasing direct contacts and informal discussions of 4-H members with youth from other countries. More use is being made of films such as "World Affairs Are Your Affairs," prepared by the Ford Foundation, and "Grassroots Ambassadors," which tells the story of IFYE as seen through the eyes of Everett Mitchell, as he visited our young people in Europe and the Middle East and foreign youth in this country last year. It is important to note that his visits to Korea and Japan in the fall of 1951 and to Latin America in the spring of 1952 have done much to stimulate 4-H around the world. The study and participation in UNESCO programs is another example of the many ways 4-H'ers are taking part in world affairs.

Pen Pals

Another interesting aspect of the interest of 4-H Club members in world affairs is the correspondence conducted with young people of other lands. Typical of the way such friendships are developed is a letter received by the editor of the Extension Service Review, which read in part: "Very recently I had a chance to see the March issue of the Extension Service Review at the agricultural experiment station and found it very interesting in view of my job as a member of the 4-H Club in our district. ...I am eagerly hoping to learn in detail on activities which are being carried out by the 4-H Clubs in America. I shall be very happy if you would kindly introduce me to some one as my pen pal.--Katsunori Suzuki, Agricultural Improvement Bureau, Prefecture Government, Mito City, Ibaraki Pref., Japan."

4-H INFORMATION WORK

One of the means of developing improved 4-H Club programs is through a better informed public. One of the striking developments this year was in the amount of news coverage of 4-H activities. "Information coverage of the twenty-second National 4-H Club Camp was bigger than in recent years," according to our Division of Extension Information. "This was true in spite of the impending political conventions that were piling up advance interest and making front-page news."

Although the number of news articles remained about the same, there was a sharp increase in the amount of radio and television coverage. It has been said that "Good judgment takes place in the presence of good information." Certainly 4-H is making strides in spreading its influence through news media.

4-H MEASURES ITS ACHIEVEMENTS

Upon the National Archives Building in Washington, chiseled in marble, is the statement: "Past is Prologue." It is in this spirit that 4-H evaluates its work in order to build for a better future. There are many types of evaluation, two of which were referred to in the Florida report for the year: "Evaluation of the intangible human values of 4-H Club work such as attitudes and personal development...the tangible accomplishments measured in such terms as number of quarts canned, number of garments made, and the number of rooms improved."

One of the studies of 4-H Club work was made in Vermont. They report: "The most significant achievement of the year was the completing of the data in the club agents' Time Use Study. A special evaluation committee is using this data as a basis for determining the future course of the 4-H Club program in Vermont."

The Western States completed the third phase of their study of 4-H Club re-enrollments. Utah was one of the cooperating States. All agents in 20 counties made case studies of members who did not reenroll. In addition to the important data gathered, the experience of making the case studies was valuable training for the staff, according to the State office.

"What makes 4-H Club work click in a county?" was the subject of a study conducted in a county in each of the Southern States and Puerto Rico. The most important factors seemed to be professional leadership, public support, local volunteer leadership, individual projects, organization, publicity of accomplishments, recognition and competition, local club meetings, and activities and events.

These studies were conducted by State and county extension workers in cooperation with the Division of Field Studies and Training in the Federal Extension office.

Many other studies were carried on by extension workers as a part of their professional improvement. Miss Margaret Kohl, of Montana, completed a study of urban 4-H Club work in which she endeavored to find the extent to which

the work was being carried on, the ways in which it operates, and thus to suggest some guideposts for the further development of urban 4-H work. Mr. Benjamin Westrate, of Michigan, studied the use of contests and awards in 4-H Club work and concluded that such techniques are important in work with young people if properly used. Mr. Merle Howes studied the problem of reenrollments in 4-H Club work as a part of his fellowship activities in the USDA. Miss Elaine Skucius devoted her attention to the field of Young Men and Women's Work, while pursuing her fellowship activities also. Mr. J. B. Sharp studied 4-H forestry work as part of his dissertation at Harvard. Mr. L. L. Rutledge initiated a study of the 4-H Club tractor maintenance program in cooperation with the University of Missouri and a number of States. These are examples of the constant analysis and review of 4-H work that was done during the year as Extension workers endeavored to improve their work. But the cold calculations revealed by our formal analysis of 4-H work, while immensely valuable within themselves, do not tell the story as effectively as the members do in their own words. Here's the way Nobue Kawahara, Hawaii's delegate to the 1951 National 4-H Club Camp, put it: "I thought of the many things I had learned through 4-H Club work...I thought of its tremendous growth since its organization...and of the vast fields of opportunity it offered youths everywhere. Yes, I thought, how fortunate I had been for having participated in 4-H activities for 8 years, here in the melting pot of the Pacific. I beamed with pride as I pictured myself as one of America's 2 million 4-H'ers participating in this national affair. And who wouldn't when you know that you belong to one of the most worthwhile and foremost youth organizations of the Territory and of the Nation? ...I say worthwhile because I have gained more from it than from any other club of which I've been a member in my 18 years."

PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT

4-H Club workers are constantly endeavoring "to make the best better" personally and professionally. Special 4-H Club courses were offered in each of the four regional summer schools for extension workers as well as in many States.

A new addition to the opportunities for professional improvement was the course in human relations and human development. Forty-four Extension workers from 33 States took part in the human relations short course at the University of Maryland Institute for Child Study from June 23 to August 1. They were recipients of scholarships made possible by a grant of \$10,500 from the Sears-Roebuck Foundation to the National 4-H Club Foundation. This training program, which was the first of its kind on this subject for extension workers, was arranged because of an increased awareness of the problems of human development on the part of extension personnel who work with young people.

Increasing attention was given to in-service training of all types, including seminars, conferences, laboratories, tours, and workshops. Typical of the reports is Wyoming's: "Training of Extension agents and local leaders was uppermost in the plans for 1951. Some of this was accomplished at... short course...camp...workshops."

Induction training and apprenticeship of new agents are related to professional improvement. Most States have developed such programs aimed at improving the effectiveness of the agents. North Dakota reports that: "Conferences were held with new agents in the State 4-H Club office to familiarize them with the 4-H Club program, policies, and philosophies. Whenever possible, new agents serve as assistants...before taking on the job of regular county Extension agents. ...An extension methods course is offered...in college. When funds permit, summer employment of college students interested in extension work is encouraged."

Idaho emphasized the place of induction training by saying "...induction training was given to new agents throughout the year as they were placed in various counties. ...Whenever possible, the other county workers attended... these induction training sessions. Experienced workers profited by these brush-up sessions..."

Many examples of in-service training were reported by other States, such as Kentucky, which reported that "Recreation leaders from all over the State took part in a recreation workshop which included weaving, handicraft, bait-casting, folk dancing, singing, outdoor and indoor games, nature study, sketching, and philosophy classes."

IN CONCLUSION

As we review 4-H achievements, especially the past year, we feel justifiable pride. More than 15,609,000 different boys and girls have shared in its benefits; not to mention others influenced by its activities. 4-H Club work has flourished because of the support and cooperation of many individuals and groups such as the National Committee on Boys and Girls Club Work and the National 4-H Club Foundation--both dedicated to the development of 4-H.

This report is in no sense a complete review of the record-breaking activities of the 4-H Clubs during the past year. Rather, glimpses of its achievements are given through illustrations drawn at random from the States and Territories. There are many more that should be told because of their impact upon people everywhere, such as: the seeing-eye dog project in New Jersey; the recreation leaders' laboratories in which 4-H has participated, such as the one held at El Mirador Ranch near Espanola, N. M.; the 4-H camping program at Bear Hill Pond in Vermont, which the State leader calls the general 4-H activity with the most appeal.

Space has not permitted a detailed report on the superb accomplishments of 4-H in Indiana where the cooperative relationships with other youth organizations have made for especially outstanding achievements; the Texas 4-H Junior Leadership Training Laboratory where 120 young people were trained for service; the function of the 4-H All-Star groups in States like West Virginia in "setting aside" young people for leadership; the success of States like Arizona in working with people of widely varying cultures and economic and social levels; work with young people in densely populated areas such as Rhode Island and Connecticut; and other activities such as the 4-H and NFA corn "speaking" contest in North Carolina, the camping program at the Flora Parrish Training Center in Mississippi, and the Regional 4-H Club Camp at Tuskegee, Ala.

Only brief mention has been made of the special 4-H days, weeks, and events during the year. However, the observances of National 4-H Sunday, National 4-H Club Week, and National 4-H Achievement Day across the Nation this year have been superior to any previous ones. The programs at National 4-H Club Camp, National 4-H Club Congress, regional, State, district, and county meetings have been improved as our "know-how" has been increased through experience. The issuance of a special 4-H commemorative stamp by the Post Office Department and the observance of the fiftieth anniversary of Ohio's 4-H Club program have focused attention on the background of experience in 4-H. These activities have helped in the fourfold development of not only 4-H Club members but people everywhere who come under their influence.

It is with pride that we record some of the high lights of 4-H Club work from Maine to Washington, from Alaska to Puerto Rico--all the 48 States and the Territories--not that we boast of victories won but rather that through this review, new visions may be seen, imaginizations stirred, and courage mustered to the end that the thread of freedom may become even stronger in the years ahead.

